

Lorna is a woman of dedication who does not rest on her laurels. A winner of the first pageant she entered at the age of 15—Miss St. Pauls—and subsequent crowns of Miss Lumbee in 1994, Miss Fayetteville in 1998, and Miss Topsail Island in 2000, Lorna has kept the fire and energy alive to reach her dream of Miss North Carolina. She is a woman of dedication who provides a positive example for all to follow. A woman of dedication who has served as a substance abuse counselor with the Palmer Drug Prevention Program in Lumberton, Lorna will now inform young people all across North Carolina of the danger of drugs and alcohol.

Finally, Lorna is a woman of determination: a woman determined to make a difference, a woman of determination who understands that we face challenges that will define our future, a woman of determination who knows that we must address these challenges, a woman of determination motivated by the hope of making life better for all.

Personally, my family and I have come to know and love Lorna over the last few years. She sang when I first announced I was running for Congress on September 25, 1995, in Lumberton's Downtown Plaza, and she also sang during my announcement for re-election on October 2, 1997. More recently, my wife, Dee, and Lorna have been "working out" together at a local fitness center for the last six months, leading up to her recent coronation. Lorna and Dee have even been taking boxing together under the same instructor, Staff Sgt. Andrew Baker, who is retired from the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, Lorna often uses the words of Pastor Robert Schuller when speaking before young people on the importance of achieving their dreams—"If it's gonna be, it's up to me."

Lorna, thank you for fulfilling those words through your decision, your dedication, and your determination. We wish you continued success, and may God's strength, peace and joy be with you as you begin your reign as Miss North Carolina 2000 and as you compete for the title of Miss America!

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY,
AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment offered by Representatives LOWEY, MCCARTHY, DELAUNO and STABENOW. This amendment would increase by \$150 million the bill's appropriation for the Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS) program. The COPS program adds officers to the beat, enhances crime-fighting technology, and supports crime prevention initiatives.

The COPS program is a Clinton/Gore initiative that has been successful in adding cops to the beat and advancing community policing nationwide. To date, the COPS program has

funded more than 104,000 officers. Community policing is a crime fighting strategy that encourages law enforcement to work in partnership with the community to solve crime problems. Mr. Chairman, this is a proven crime fighting initiative that has worked in my district and throughout the nation.

COPS is making a difference in our schools. Many communities are discovering that trained, sworn law enforcement officers assigned to schools make a difference. The presence of these officers provides schools with on-site security and a direct link to local enforcement agencies.

Community policing officers typically perform a variety of functions within the school. From teaching crime prevention and substance-abuse classes to monitoring troubled students to building respect for law enforcement among students, School Resource Officers combine the functions of law enforcement and education.

These funds will allow the COPS program to award grants to add up to 7,000 officers to our nation's streets and to provide added safety in our schools. These funds will be used to equip law enforcement with 21st century tools to fight 21st century crime. Grants will be used to invest in interagency information networks, technology centers, ballistics testing, DNA research and backlog reduction, crime lab enhancement, and crime mapping and analysis.

Mr. Chairman, my district is comprised of cities like Watts and Compton which struggle to meet the demands of crime fighting. While the rest of the nation is experiencing unprecedented drops in crime, our nation's urban centers are being left behind. I want to urge my colleagues to support this amendment which provides additional funding for a program that has truly taken a bite out of crime.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY,
AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4690) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Chairman, I regret having to oppose this amendment offered by my good friend colleague from Illinois. While I appreciate what the gentleman is trying to do, I cannot support a reduction of \$15 million dollars in the National Weather Service budget.

This bill does not provide sufficient funding for many valuable programs, and it fails to provide any funding for many others. The funding level provided in the bill for NOAA, which administers the National Weather Service is already \$500 million below the Administration's request and the gentleman's amendment would essentially level fund the weather

service at last year's level. That is simply unacceptable.

Every American in this country relies upon the weather service—at times to provide information that is vital to save lives and property. Weather Service programs cost each taxpayer a few dollars per year—a modest price to pay for the protection of life and property.

We have entered hurricane season. The gentleman's amendment would cut funding from the operations budget of the Hurricane Center in Miami and from other critical weather prediction centers around the country. Base operations at the 121 weather forecast offices around the country also would be impaired by this cut. This is simply too high a price to pay.

As the gentleman knows, the Administration included \$15 million for The PRIME Technical Assistance Grants in its budget request. I am certain there are many Members who share the gentleman's desire to see this program funded, however it should not be funded by cutting funds from corps programs of the National Weather Service.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY,
AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4690) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of my amendment to the FY 2001 Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations bill to help address the area code crisis that we are facing in America. Since 1995, we have added 95 new area codes in the United States. At our current pace, some estimate that we will run out of area codes entirely as early as 2007. If we run out of available numbers, your constituents will foot the estimated \$150 billion bill.

The problem is not that there aren't enough numbers out there, it's that tens of thousands of numbers are being unused. Unfortunately companies have been forced to take numbers in blocks of 10,000—even if they were only going to use a handful of the numbers. The rest of the numbers just sit unused.

In Massachusetts, the problem has become quite large in the last few years. In 1998, we added two new area codes in the state—781 and 978—for a total of five area codes. At the time, we were assured that these new codes would last for many years and we wouldn't have to go through this disruptive process again. Unfortunately, less than two years later, we were informed that these new codes were running out of numbers already and that we would have to add four new codes in Eastern Massachusetts alone. Now the area code in Western Massachusetts is also in jeopardy. If

we add all of these new codes, we'll have ten area codes in a state that had only three codes less than five years ago.

While the FCC has recently moved to reduce the amount of numbers companies can take from 10,000 to 1,000, the same companies will not have to fully comply with the order until 2002. The wireless providers have an even longer time to make this change. My amendment asks the Commission to look at the possibility of shortening the timeline for the implementation of this order. If we wait for two more years, we may have added dozens of new area codes that are not needed.

The amendment also offers several other suggestions that I believe the FCC should consider as they produce this study. These include encouraging states and telecommunications companies to work together on rate center consolidation plans. Some believe that the number of rate centers in certain areas is significantly contributing to the overall area code crisis. While I know this is a complicated issue, and there may be valid concerns about the cost, the Commission should study the issue closely.

In addition, my amendment asks that the FCC address the issue of technology-specific area codes reserved for wireless/paging services or data phone lines. As more and more Americans take advantage of the new technologies available, more and more telephone numbers must be set aside for these services. There may be an opportunity to ease the numbering problem by reserving specific area codes for these new technologies.

If none of these suggestions offer a real solution to the problem, my amendment asks that the Commission study the costs and technological problems of adding an additional digit to existing phone numbers. This should focus on any potential ways to minimize the impact and cost on consumers and the business community.

Mr. Chairman, I believe this is a common-sense amendment to help us deal with the area code crisis. We must act quickly to address this issue. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY,
AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4690) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Chairman, I requested that the Rules Committee waive points of order against my amendment to increase appropriations for the Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities (CIPA) account. While I had few illusions that the Rules Committee

would do so, it is important that Members understand what we are doing to the UN and our own foreign policy in the bill. My amendment would increase the account by \$241 million, up to the President's request of \$739 million. That level would allow the United States to pay its anticipated Fiscal Year 2001 assessments for United Nations Peacekeeping. Full funding includes the four missions in Africa that the current funding level and language in the Committee report restrict—Sierra Leone, Congo, Ethiopia/Eritrea, and Western Sahara. Unfortunately, the Rules Committee failed to protect the amendment.

BILL IMPAIRS U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

The CIPA account enables the United States to meet its treaty obligation to pay its assessed share of UN peacekeeping missions. The severe underfunding of CIPA in the bill impairs the conduct of American foreign policy in four important areas: (1) it restricts our foreign policy options; (2) It threatens to create new United Nations arrears; (3) It undermines our efforts to reform the United Nations; and (4) it sends the unfortunate message that Africa doesn't matter to this body.

The bill freezes CIPA funding at last year's level of \$498 million. International peacekeeping cannot and should not be dictated by an arbitrary freeze level. History shows that the account fluctuates dramatically in response to world events. It was over \$1 billion in FY 1994, but only \$210 million in FY 1998. Rather than provide the flexibility to respond to unpredictable foreign affairs, the Committee asserts control of the United States' vote at the UN Security Council.

COMMITTEE ASSERTS CONTROL OF SECURITY COUNCIL
VOTE

Two mechanisms in the legislation hamstring our actions in the Security Council:

(1) The Committee report directs the State Department to "live within" the arbitrary \$498 million funding level and to "take no action to extend existing missions, or create new missions for which funding is not available." (2) The report spells out the missions for which funding is not available—the four UN peacekeeping missions in Africa: Sierra Leone, Congo, Ethiopia/Eritrea, and Western Sahara.

The funding level and report language could well have the effect of directing U.S. vetoes in the Security Council. The State Department would have to veto the missions listed, as well as any other unforeseen missions that are considered by the UN Security Council.

BILL LIMITS FOREIGN POLICY OPTIONS

This bill handicaps our nation's ability to respond to international crisis by removing United Nations multilateral action as a policy option. In many cases such a multilateral response is the most attractive option. We only pay 25 percent of the cost of UN peacekeeping missions. And we have no troops involved in the four missions in Africa blocked by this bill. Without the multilateral option, our policy makers are left to choose between unilateral action and inaction.

IMPACTS ON UN ARREARS

The underfunding of CIPA in this bill compounds fiscal year 2000 shortfalls and threatens to create new UN peacekeeping arrears. The Committee currently has requests pending from the State Department—some from

August of last year—to reprogram CIPA funds to pay our assessments. This is not new money; State is only asking to shift existing funds. The Committee's failure to approve the \$225 million in reprogrammings is preventing the payment of \$93 million in bills the United States has already received.

So while the Committee blocks the payment of \$93 million in current bills for UN missions in East Timor, Sierra Leone, and Congo, we now propose to underfund CIPA by \$240 million in FY 2001. The resulting shortfalls in peacekeeping funds will require a peacekeeping supplemental early next year. In light of the Committee's failure to fund this year's peacekeeping supplemental, this bill is one step in creating a new arrears problem.

BILL UNDERMINES UN REFORM

The timing for these shortfalls could not be worse. Our representatives to the UN are attempting to negotiate reductions in our United Nations assessment rate. Those reductions require other nations to increase their own assessments. The accrual of new arrears will severely undermine our negotiating position at a critical time.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Chairman, it is crucial to our foreign policy in general, and specifically toward Africa, that we fully fund our obligations to United Nations Peacekeeping missions. As this legislation advances in the process, I will continue to work to meet those obligations and to remove the restrictions on missions in Africa.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4635) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Chairman, I rise to express my concern about the deep cuts in the Veterans Administration—Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies (VA—HUD) Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2001. This legislation not only slashes funds for programs that have enhanced economic development and improved housing in Connecticut and the 5th Congressional District, but also short changes our nation's veterans and NASA programs. My support for the VA/HUD Appropriations bill is conditioned on a conference agreement that increases funding for HUD, the Veterans Administration and NASA.

If allowed to stand, the cuts to HUD programs will have a significant impact on the State of Connecticut and on my own congressional district, affecting both economic development initiatives and a variety of housing